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PERISCOPE

Admiral Turner Jolts the Navy

One of Stansfield Turner's last acts as CIA director has brought groans from the retired admiral's Navy colleagues. Turner oversaw an annual CIA report comparing U.S. and Soviet defense spending, and it shows that while the U.S. Army and Air Force are being heavily outspent, the Navy is actually spending more than its Soviet counterpart. This finding could make it harder for U.S. admirals to back up their demands for a larger share of the Pentagon budget—which the Navy argues that it legitimately needs, to build more ships. Its budget tops the Soviet Navy's only because the Soviets lack aircraft carriers and planes that require vastly expensive maintenance.